

# THE CONHI CHRONICLE

News and Updates from  
The College of Nursing and Health Innovation



## ***UTA LEGEND TO OUR NURSES: THANK YOU!***

"My name is Allan Saxe, retired from UTA after 55 years. I am very appreciative of the Nursing Profession...I was good friends with Dean Myrna Pickard, the first UTA Nursing Dean. Since this is National Nurse Appreciation Day, I thought I would send my appreciation to all nursing students who are entering the profession in troublesome times. If convenient please pass this note on to all. Nursing students are truly the best."

Thank you, Dr. Saxe! We appreciate both your support of our nursing students and faculty and your service to the UT Arlington community!

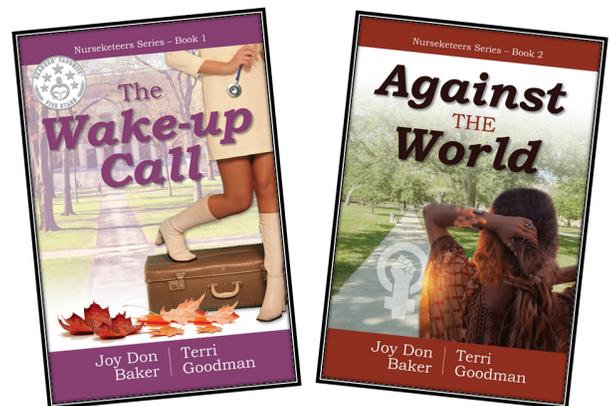


## GETTING TO KNOW US: JOY DON BAKER

Joy Don Baker loves creative adventures. She plays the drums, has learned to fly an airplane, went on a cattle drive, dabbled in oil painting, poetry writing, and several other escapades before the idea to write a novel arose in her mind, something creative yet different from her normal scholarly writing. While traveling to a conference together, she shared this with Terri Goodman and learned they had similar writing interests and a writing partnership was born.

Together, they have created ***The Nurseketeers Series***. They decided it was important to write about something they knew and chose to set their series around student nurses in the era of their youth. The characters are based on a group of women Joy Don happened to be watching prior to the start of a movie one summer afternoon. Joy Don says that she ascribed personal characteristics such as color of hair or clothing to the women in the theater and assigned names to each: Ms. Brown, Ms. Blue, Ms. Red, and Ms. Gray. In the series, Brown became Frannie Braun, Blue is Leslie Bleu, Red is Robin Hart, and Gray is Katie Grayfox. You can find those characters in *The Wake-Up Call* and *Against the World*, the first two novels in the series, with *Silent Struggle* planned for completion this year. Along the way, Joy Don and Terri discovered that with their different writing styles, it was necessary to create mutually agreed upon goals to guide them.

Joy Don states, “We could not find any literature on author partnering to help us with the process of forming our writing partnership. We found loads of references on writing fiction, editing, and publishing but not on the unique challenge of writing as partners.” So they wrote a guide of their own, the A, B, Cs of Author Partnering, to share what they learned in the process of becoming writing partners. This how-to book addresses alignment, balance, and the seven C’s: commitment, contracts, communication, conflict management, commerce, creativity, and a call to action. You can find Joy Don and Terri’s books at <https://www.bakergoodman.com>





## **UTA NURSING FACULTY ARRIVES IN NEW YORK CITY TO TREAT COVID-19 PATIENTS**

By Paul Bennett

NEW YORK CITY – Clinical Assistant Professor Jonné Wilmore landed in an empty Newark Airport on Sunday morning, wearing a reusable facemask that was custom made for her by a colleague. She is one of thousands of nurses heading into New York City to treat COVID-19 patients during a worldwide pandemic that has already claimed the lives of over 40,000 Americans.

“There’s still something that lives inside of all [nurses] that never really leaves most of us,” she said. “When we see all of this devastation going on and we’re at home, we feel like we want to do something.” Wilmore is a double board-certified acute care pediatric nurse practitioner and family nurse practitioner, in addition to being a clinical placement faculty at UTA. She was selected to work in the emergency room at Mount Sinai Hospital after submitting her information in an online database for nurses. “Of course, you see on the news all these healthcare workers are coming, but at home you’re like, “well, how are they doing that?,”” she said. “I was just sitting in my house feeling really

uncomfortable not helping out, so I looked into a way to do it.” Wilmore will be leaving her life in Houston behind for the next six weeks. She says being apart from her husband and two miniature schnauzers was not an easy decision to make. “I’ve probably told my husband I’m not going 20 times, all the way until this morning when he dropped me off,” she said. “Just like any nurse, we have to balance our family, and this feeling that made us want to go into nursing and be there in the times of human suffering.”

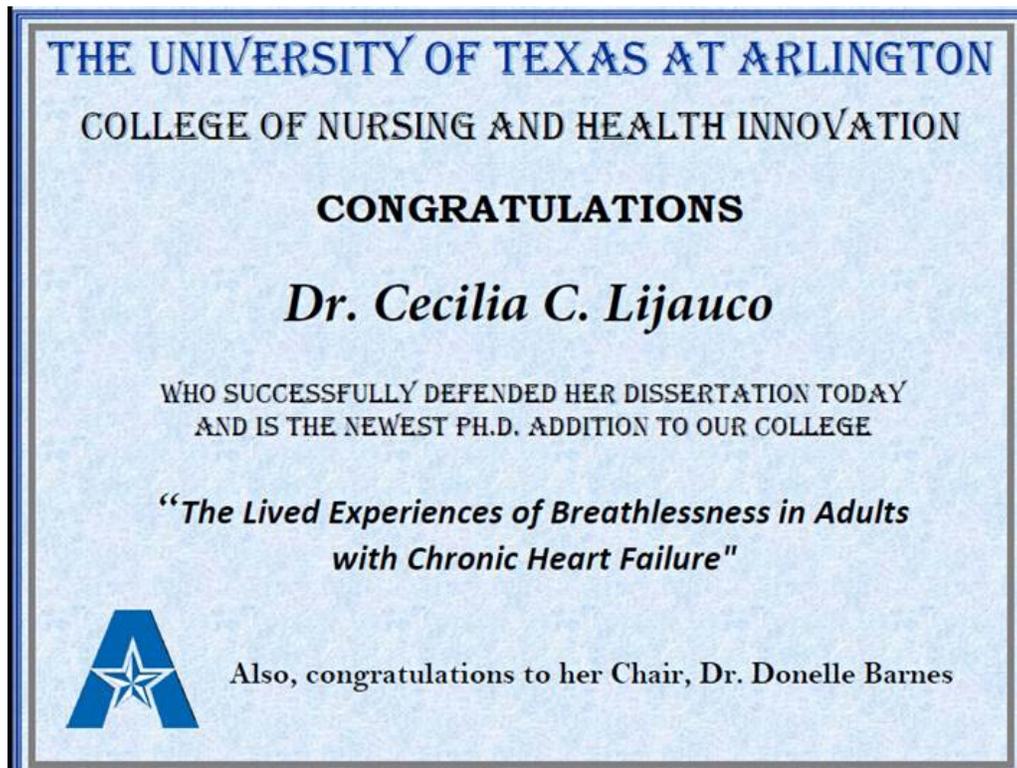
*“This feeling made us want to go into nursing and be there in the times of human suffering.”*

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. SAMUEL!**

On Thursday April 23rd, Jake Samuel successfully defended his doctoral dissertation titled "Development and Clinical Application of a Novel Left Ventricular Diastolic Stress Test".

Jake worked in Dr. Mike Nelson's laboratory. He was awarded a predoctoral fellowship from the American Heart Association and has also accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at Johns Hopkins University.

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. LIJAUCO!**



# WELCOME TO DR. BALL AND DR. WILSON!

The following article was originally published as a UTA News Release (<https://www.uta.edu/news/news-releases/2020/05/01/marion-ball-gabriela-wilson-uta-hire>)

The University of Texas at Arlington has taken a major step toward fulfilling its goal of becoming a leader in health informatics by hiring Marion Ball, a member of the National Academy of Medicine, and Gabriela Wilson, who served as chair of the University of Southern Indiana's Health Informatics and Information Management Program. Together they will establish the Multi-Interprofessional Center for Health Informatics at UTA (MICHI-UTA), enhancing the University's robust Health and Human Condition portfolio, while continuing to advance its trajectory to achieving Tier One status in Texas. "The addition of Drs. Ball and Wilson to our faculty fortifies our ever-growing strength in health sciences research and education," Interim Vice President for Research James Grover said. "Continued growth in faculty excellence, attained through both the arrival of new faculty and the achievements of current faculty, is essential for maintaining and exceeding the standards for the Maverick student experience. I am thrilled to welcome these distinguished scholars to UTA and look forward to the contributions they will make to our University and its service to the world." Ball was the first American and first woman to be elected president of the International Medical Informatics Association.

Prior to joining UTA, she was the senior advisor for health care informatics at the Center for Computational Health at IBM Research, and she is a Professor Emerita at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing. She also holds an affiliate professorship in the Division of Health Sciences Informatics in the School of Medicine at Johns Hopkins University, which she will retain. Ball has written or edited more than 25 books and 230 articles in the field of health care informatics, including the influential textbook *Nursing Informatics: Where Technology and Caring Meet*, now in preparation for its fifth edition. The Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS) named Ball one of the 50 most influential IT professionals in the last half-century. She has received numerous other honors, including the International Medical Informatics Association Lifetime Achievement Award and the American Medical Informatics Association Morris F. Collen Lifetime Achievement Award. "Dr. Ball is a globally renowned scholar and educator who will add considerable panache to UTA," said Elizabeth Merwin, dean of UTA's College of Nursing and Health Innovation. "Her work and her presence here will boost our efforts to continue to advance health and the human condition." Ball said the collaborative nature of UTA's research community makes it stand out from other universities. "I'm very excited to be part of the UTA community," Ball said. "My hope is that our work will have a worldwide impact by developing a health care informatics system of the future. Our goal is to improve patient outcomes through interprofessional health care informatics."



Wilson, an internationally recognized health care informatics scholar and expert, comes to UTA from the University of Southern Indiana, where she developed a comprehensive curriculum for the Health Informatics and Information Management Program. An award-winning faculty member, she pursued her passion for mentoring graduate and undergraduate students in nursing, health administration, computational biology and medicine. "Dr. Wilson has an outstanding track record as a scholar with a strong, interdisciplinary research portfolio," Merwin said. "Her presence on the team will help us advance our research efforts significantly. She will be a terrific role model and mentor to our junior faculty and graduate students, and she will help boost our efforts to engage in more interdisciplinary research. She will also be an asset to our growing kinesiology program." Wilson said she is "honored and thrilled" to play a founding role in the Multi-Interprofessional Center for Health Informatics. "UTA is an impressive institution with a unique vision, clear strategies, and an institutional commitment to health informatics research," Wilson said. "During my initial visit, I quickly discovered that UTA is a vibrant and friendly community, and I'm very happy to now be part of it."